

1. (once amended) A method of increasing the mutation rate of a retrovirus or flavivirus, comprising administering an RNA nucleoside analog to a virally infected cell, wherein the analog is incorporated by a polymerase into an RNA copy of a genomic nucleic acid encoding the retrovirus or flavivirus, said analog replacing a first natural occurring nucleotide having a first complementary nucleotide wherein said analog complements a second nucleotide which is other than the first nucleotide, thereby inducing the retrovirus or flavivirus to mutate.

12. (once amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the virus is a pestivirus.

13. (twice amended) A method of increasing the mutation rate of a virus in an animal comprising administering to the animal a therapeutically effective dose of a mutagenic ribonucleoside analog composition wherein the analog is one that, in a cell infected with a virus of interest, is incorporated by a polymerase into an RNA copy of a genomic nucleic acid encoding the virus, said analog replacing a first natural occurring nucleotide having a first complementary nucleotide wherein said analog complements a second nucleotide which is other than the first nucleotide together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

REMARKS

With this amendment, claims 1-110, 12-18, 45-50, and 66 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 12, and 45 are amended and claim 11 is canceled without prejudice to subsequent revival. For convenience, the Examiner's rejections are addressed in the order in which they were presented in the October 30, 2002 Office Action. Appendix A provides the "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made." All pending claims are provided in Appendix B.